

BAY STATERS ARE READY FOR A NEW DIRECTION

Under the leadership of President Bush and his Republican allies in Congress, life has become more difficult for Bay Staters. Here are some of the ways that life has become less affordable and secure in Massachusetts. Democrats are working for real security, better jobs, college access for all, energy independence, affordable health care, and retirement security. It's time for a new direction in Massachusetts.

INCOME: BAY STATERS ARE BARELY EARNING MORE TODAY THAN THEY WERE FIVE YEARS AGO

- In 2000, the median income in Massachusetts was \$52,273.¹
- In 2005, the median income in Massachusetts was \$54,888, a slight increase of 5.0 percent.²

HEALTH CARE: THE NUMBER OF UNINSURED IN MASSACHUSETTS HAS GROWN UNDER BUSH REPUBLICANS

- In 2000, Massachusetts had 535,000 adults without insurance (8.7 percent).³
- In 2005, Massachusetts had 618,000 adults without insurance (9.8 percent).⁴
- Massachusetts had 162,679 children benefit from the SCHIP Program.⁵ If funding is not restored by Congress to the SCHIP program, Massachusetts will face a funding shortfall of \$124,398,000.⁶

EDUCATION: THE COST OF COLLEGE CONTINUES TO RISE IN MASSACHUSETTS

- In 2001, tuition at a public four-year institution in Massachusetts was \$9,206.⁷ In 2005, it was \$13,687, a 49 percent increase.⁸
- In 2001, tuition at a private four-year institution in Massachusetts was \$28,689.⁹ In 2005, it was \$35,470, a 24 percent increase.¹⁰
- Number of Bay Staters affected by the lapse of the College Tuition Tax Deduction – 97,107¹¹
- Number of Bay Staters affected by the lapse of the Educator Expenses Tax Deduction – 89,840¹²

GAS PRICES: THE HIGH COST OF GAS CONTINUES TO BE A BURDEN FOR MASSACHUSETTS RESIDENTS

- In 2001, the average cost of gas in Massachusetts was \$1.501 a gallon.¹³
- Today the average cost of gas in Massachusetts is \$2.428 a gallon.¹⁴
- In 2001, the average annual cost of gas for a household in Massachusetts was \$1,978.¹⁵

- Today the average annual cost of gas for a household in Massachusetts is \$3,199, \$1,221 (61.8 percent) more than it was in 2001.¹⁶

SOCIAL SECURITY: BAY STATERS DON'T WANT AN END TO SOCIAL SECURITY

- Number of Social Security Beneficiaries in Massachusetts – 1,066,620¹⁷
- Average Monthly Benefit per Beneficiary in Massachusetts – \$887¹⁸

IRAQ, TROOPS AND VETERANS: BAY STATERS ON THE FRONT LINES

- Number of Bay Staters killed in Iraq – 43¹⁹
- Number of Bay Staters wounded in Iraq – 330²⁰
- Number of Bay Staters killed in Afghanistan – 14²¹
- Number of Bay Staters wounded in Afghanistan – 20²²
- Number of Veterans in Massachusetts – 490,882²³

REPUBLICANS CONTINUE TO PUSH FOR GIVEAWAYS FOR A WEALTHY MINORITY WHILE IGNORING MASSACHUSETTS'S MINIMUM WAGE WORKERS

- Only 985 estates in Massachusetts paid an Estate Tax in 2004.²⁴
- Only 175 estates in Massachusetts will benefit from the Estate Tax cut in 2009.²⁵

CRIME: FUNDING FOR COMMUNITY POLICING DISAPPEARING

- Amount of COPS Funding Dispersed in 2002 – 10,904,870²⁶
- Amount of COPS Funding Dispersed in 2006 – 5,433,253²⁷

TAX CUTS: BUSH TAX POLICIES BENEFIT THE WEALTHIEST BAY STATERS

The Bush tax cuts have overwhelmingly benefited the wealthiest Bay Staters.

- In 2001, the richest one percent of Massachusetts residents each received an average of \$3,902 in tax cuts, while middle class Massachusetts residents received only \$404.²⁸
- In 2006, the richest one percent of Massachusetts residents will receive an average of \$69,784 in tax cuts, while middle class Massachusetts residents will only receive \$720.²⁹
- In 2010, under the Bush tax plan, the richest one percent of Massachusetts residents will each receive an average of \$129,356 in tax cuts, while middle class Massachusetts residents will only receive \$837.³⁰

The richest Bay Staters receive an ever-growing share of the Bush tax cut.

- In 2001, the richest Bay Staters received 8.3 percent of the Bush tax cut, while the middle class received 17.2 percent of the tax cut.³¹
- But, in 2006, the richest Bay Staters will get 35.1 percent of the Bush tax cut, while the middle class will get 7.2 percent of the tax cut.³²
- And, in 2010, the richest Bay Staters will get 58.4 percent of the Bush tax cut, while the middle class will get 7.5 percent of the tax cut.³³

Bush capital gains and dividend tax cuts overwhelmingly benefit the wealthiest Bay Staters.

- In 2010, the richest Bay Staters will receive an average of \$27,004 from the Bush capital gains and dividend tax cuts. That means the richest Bay Staters will be getting over 63 percent of all of the tax cut benefit.³⁴
- In contrast, in 2010, middle class Bay Staters will receive an average of \$76 from the Bush capital gains and dividend tax cuts. That's just 3.6 percent of the benefit going to the middle class.³⁵

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